

REMARKS

Claims 1-8, 10-11, 14-69 are pending in the present application. Independent Claims 5, 29 and 43 were amended to further clarify the features already present in the Claims and to correct translation-related issues. Dependent Claims 8, 10, 14 and 22 were amended to maintain antecedent basis with the respective independent Claims and to correct translation-related issues. Dependent Claims 9, 12 and 13 were cancelled. Claims 57-69 were added to claim subject matter disclosed in the specification. These amendments and additions have added no new matter.

Specification

Applicants have presented a replacement abstract to overcome the objections of the Examiner.

The 35 U.S.C. 112 first paragraph Rejections

Claims 29-56 stand rejected pursuant to 35 U.S.C. 112 first paragraph as based on a disclosure that is non-enabling. Applicants have amended independent Claims 29, 31 and 43, and select dependent claims to eliminate reference to third and/or fourth features. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request removal of the 35 U.S.C. 112 first paragraph rejection since amended claims 29-56 are based on an enabling disclosure.

The 35 U.S.C. 103(a) Claim Rejections

Pending Claims 1-3, 5-8, 11, 12, 15-27, 29-32, 35-44 and 47-56 stand rejected pursuant to 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.K. Patent Application No. 2 322 248 A to Fujitsu Limited with inventor Ken Hashimoto (hereinafter "Hashimoto") in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,774,802 to Tell et al. (hereinafter "Tell") and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,580,904 to Cox et al. (hereinafter "Cox"). In addition, claims 15-20, 35-40 and 47-52 stand rejected pursuant to 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hashimoto in view of Tell, in view of Cox and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,138,003 to Kingdon et al. (hereinafter "Kingdon"). Applicants respectfully traverse these rejections for at least the following reasons.

Claim 1 is directed to a location information notifying method for notifying a predetermined computer of location information of a mobile communication terminal obtained on a mobile communication network that contains mobile communication terminals capable of wireless communication. The predetermined computer to which the location information is notified includes a first computer capable of handling the location information in a first representational format and a second computer capable of handling the location information in a second representational format. The location information notifying method includes a location information generating step of detecting the position of the mobile communication terminal and generating the location information thereof. The method also includes a location information converting step wherein, in the event of notifying the location information to the first computer, the location information is converted from an original representational format into the first representational format. In the event of making notification of the location information to the second computer, the location information is converted from the original representational format into the second representational format. In addition, the method includes a location information notifying step of notifying the computers of the location information with the representational format thereof converted.

The Examiner has asserted that Hashimoto teaches all the features of Claim 1 with the exception of notifying the computers of the location information with the representational format thereof converted. Applicants respectfully traverse this assertion.

Hashimoto describes a portable remote terminal that includes a plurality of position systems that include GPS, D-GPS, portable telephone base station, PHS base station, radio marker and local movement detection functionality (P. 8-9 and Fig. 1). The portable remote terminal acquires the current position of the portable remote terminal by use of the highest precision position information available from the various systems. (P. 12 lines 11-23) The position is displayed in a map of the surrounding area within a display unit included with the portable remote terminal. (P. 15 lines 10-22 and Fig. 3) The portable remote terminal communicates with an information providing unit in a central system that retains map data. (P. 10 lines 20-24) The information providing unit provides map data when the map data in the portable remote terminal is insufficient to display the current position. (P. 10 lines 24-25 and P1 11 lines 1-3) The information providing unit is connected with a home terminal that can receive the current position of the portable remote terminal. (P. 11 lines 11-16) In

addition, another portable remote terminal (a third party) can receive the current position of the remote terminal. (P. 25 lines 1-4 and P. 26 lines 13-16)

Hashimoto does not teach, suggest or disclose a location information converting step in which location information is converted from an original representational format into a first representational format capable of being handled by a first computer as disclosed in Claim 1. In addition, Hashimoto fails to teach, suggest or disclose location information that is converted from said original representational format into a second representational format capable of being handled by a second computer as further disclosed in Claim 1. In fact, Hashimoto does not teach any form of conversion of location information. Instead, Hashimoto teaches entirely separate systems (GPS, D-GPS, PHS, etc.) capable of independently generating various formats of location information.

The Examiner has "interpreted" the ability to determine locations via several methods as the same thing as converting location information among different representational formats. As known in the art, separate and independent determination of position using separate position determination systems provides separate and independent formats of position information. Clearly, Hashimoto teaches away from any type of conversion of location information since the system of Hashimoto is capable of independently generating many different formats of position information with entirely separate positioning systems. In fact, the system of Hashimoto only teaches the provision of current location information either locally (on the portable terminal) or remotely (on the home terminal or another portable terminal), and fails to address any of the issues related to the capability of a computer to handle a particular format of location information.(see Applicant's Background Section) Further, Hashimoto fails to teach, suggest or disclose any type of representational format concerns, or conversion of location information to address such concerns.

Amended Claim 5 discloses a location information notifying method for notifying a predetermined computer of location information of a mobile communication terminal obtained on a mobile communication network that contains mobile communication terminals capable of wireless communication. The location information notifying method includes obtaining a detected location of a mobile communication terminal, and generating location information indicative of the detected location of the mobile communication terminal. The method also includes determining a precision needed by a computer that is in communication

with the mobile communication terminal. The computer is configured to provide position related information to the mobile communication terminal. In addition, the method includes converting the location information to the determined precision, and notifying to the computer the converted location information.

In addition to the previously discussed reasons, Hashimoto also does not teach, suggest or disclose determining a precision needed by a computer that is in communication with a mobile terminal and converting location information to the determined precision as disclosed in Claim 5. Accordingly, for at least the previously discussed reasons, Applicants respectfully request the Examiner to remove the 35 U.S.C. 103(a) rejections of independent Claims 1 and 5. Since dependent Claims 2-3, 23-24 and 6, 24 depend from independent Claims 1 and 5 respectfully, removal of the 35 U.S.C. 103(a) of these claims is also respectfully requested.

Amended Claim 7 has been amended to incorporate the features of dependent Claim 9 and dependent Claim 9 has been cancelled. Since dependent Claim 9 was previously indicated as allowable if amended to include all the features of the base claim, amended Claim 7 is now allowable. Amended Claim 11 has been amended to incorporate the features of dependent Claims 12 and 13, and Claims 12 and 13 have been cancelled. Claim 13 was indicated as allowable if amended to include the features of the base claim and any intervening claims, and therefore amended Claim 11 is now allowable. Accordingly, removal of the 35 U.S.C. 103(a) rejection of Claims 7 and 11 is respectfully requested. Claims 8, 10, 15-24 and Claims 14-24 depend from independent Claims 7 and 11, respectively, and are therefore allowable for the same reasons. Thus, removal of the 35 U.S.C. 103(a) rejection of claims 8, 10 and 14-24 is also respectfully requested.

Claim 25 discloses a location information notifying apparatus for notifying a predetermined computer of location information of a mobile communication terminal that is obtained on a mobile communication network that contains mobile communication terminals capable of wireless communication. The computer to which said location information is notified includes a first computer capable of handling said location information in a first representational format and a second computer capable of handling said location information in a second representational format. The location information notifying apparatus comprises a first location information generating unit for detecting the position of said mobile

communication terminal and generating the location information thereof. The apparatus also includes a location information representational format converting unit which, in the event of notifying the location information to the first computer, converts the location information from the representational format which is generated into the first representational format. In the event of notifying the location information to the second computer, the location information is converted from the generated representational format into the second representational format. In addition, the apparatus includes a first location information notifying unit for notifying the computer of the location information with the representational format thereof converted.

For at least the reason previously discussed with regard to Claim 1, Hashimoto does not teach, suggest or disclose the apparatus as claimed in Claim 25. In addition, Hashimoto fails to teach, suggest or disclose conversion of a generated representational format of location information into one of a first representational format or a second representation format. In fact, Hashimoto fails to teach any form of conversion of location information at all.

Amended Claim 29 discloses a location information notifying apparatus for notifying a predetermined computer of location information of a mobile communication terminal obtained on a mobile communication network that contains mobile communication terminals capable of wireless communication. The location information notifying apparatus comprises a location information generating unit for detection of the position of the mobile communication terminal and generation of location information with a precision needed by the computer. The location information generating unit is configured to determine a level of precision of the location information needed by said computer and generate said location information based on the determined level of precision. The apparatus also includes a position notifying unit for notifying the computer of the generated location information.

As previously discussed, Hashimoto fails to teach, suggest or disclose that location information is generated with regard to a precision needed by a computer as disclosed in Claim 29. In addition, Hashimoto fails to teach, suggest or disclose a location generating unit configured to determine a level of precision of the location information needed by the computer as disclosed in Claim 29. Further, generation of location information by the location generating unit based on the determined level of precision as disclosed in Claim 29 is

not taught, suggest or disclosed by Hashimoto. In fact, Hashimoto teaches away from generation of location information based on a level of precision needed by a computer since Hashimoto teaches that the highest precision positioning system available is used, and the remote terminal automatically changes successively towards the lower precision positioning systems when the higher precision systems are unavailable. (P. 12 lines 18-24)

Accordingly, for at least the foregoing reasons, Claims 25 and 29 are allowable over the cited prior art alone or in combination, and removal of the 35 U.S.C. 103(a) rejection of these claims is respectfully requested. Claims 26-28, 55-56 and 30, 55-56 depend from independent Claims 25 and 29, respectfully, and are therefore also allowable. Hence, removal of the 35 U.S.C. 103(a) rejection of claims 26-28, 55-56 and 30, 55-56 is also respectfully requested.

Amended Claim 31 discloses a location information notifying apparatus for notifying a predetermined computer of location information of a mobile communication terminal obtained on a mobile communication network that contains mobile communication terminals capable of wireless communication. The location information notifying apparatus comprises a location information generating unit for detection of the position of the mobile communication terminal and generation of location information based on information included in communication received by the location information generating unit from the mobile communication terminal. The apparatus further comprises a location information notifying unit configured to transmit data between the mobile communication terminal and the computer, wherein the generated location information is to be added to data relayed from the mobile communication terminal to the computer by the location information notifying unit.

In addition to the previously discussed reasons, Hashimoto also does not teach, suggest or disclose a location information notifying unit configured to transmit data between a mobile communication terminal and a computer that also adds location information to data relayed from the mobile communication terminal to the computer as disclosed in Claim 31. In addition, Hashimoto fails to teach, suggest or disclose a location information generating unit for detection of the position and generation of location information of the mobile communication terminal as disclosed in Claim 31. Further, Hashimoto fails to teach, suggest or disclose that the location information generating unit detects position and generates

location information based on information included in communication receive from the mobile communication terminal. Accordingly, for at least the foregoing reasons, Applicants respectfully request removal of the 35 U.S.C. 103(a) rejection of independent Claim 31 and Claims 32-42, 55-56, which depend therefrom.

Amended Claim 43 discloses a location information notifying apparatus for notifying a predetermined computer of location information of a mobile communication terminal obtained on a mobile communication network that contains mobile communication terminals capable of wireless communication. The location information notifying apparatus comprises a receiving unit configured to receive a request signal being relayed from the mobile communication terminal to the computer. The request signal comprises identification information of the mobile communication terminal and a request for location information. The apparatus also includes a location information generating unit configured to detect the position of the mobile communication terminal in response to the request signal. The location information generating unit is configured to determine and generate location information as a function of the identification information. In addition, the apparatus includes a location information notifying unit configured to include notification of the generated location information to the computer with the request signal.

In addition to the previously discussed reasons, Hashimoto also fails to teach, suggest or disclose a receiving unit configure to receive a request signal being relayed from a mobile communication terminal to a computer as disclosed in Claim 43. The Examiner has asserted that the receipt of position data by the home terminal of Hashimoto reads on the use of a request signal. Applicant respectfully disagrees since Hashimoto fails to teach, suggest or disclose that a request signal is relayed from a mobile communication terminal as disclosed in Claim 43. In fact, Hashimoto teaches away by teaching that the home terminal makes a request for the central system to report the position of the portable terminal. (P. 22 lines 2-6) Hashimoto also fails to teach, suggest or disclose a location information notifying unit configured to include notification of generated location information to a computer with the request signal as disclosed in Claim 43. Again Hashimoto actually teaches away by disclosing that the request is received by the central system, processed, and the central system then operates to display the estimated position of the mobile terminal on a display of a home terminal. (P. 22 lines 2-25) Clearly, the request of Hashimoto initiates the process of

providing location information, instead of providing notification of the location information as disclosed in Claim 43.

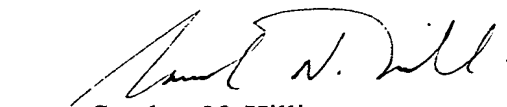
Thus, for at least the foregoing reasons, Applicants respectfully request the removal of the 35 U.S.C. 103(a) rejection of Claim 43. Claims 44-56 depend from independent Claim 43 and therefore removal of the 35 U.S.C. 103(a) rejection of these claims is also requested.

New Claims 57-69 are at least as broad as Claims 1-56. None of the prior art of record alone or in combination teaches, suggests or discloses the method of claims 57-62 or the system of Claims 63-69.

A prima facie case of obviousness has not been established since the cited prior art references neither alone nor in combination teach, suggest or disclose all the features of Claims 1 - 56. Accordingly, for at least the foregoing reasons, Claims 1-56 are patentably distinct over the prior art of record. In addition, new Claims 57-69 are also patentably distinct over the prior art of record.

The application is believed to now be in condition for allowance, which is respectfully requested. No fees in addition to those included, are believed to be required at this time. However, should any additional fees be deemed necessary, please charge such fees to Deposit Account No. 23-1925. Should the Examiner deem a telephone conference to be beneficial in expediting allowance of this application, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned attorney at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,



Sanders N. Hillis
Attorney Reg. No. 45,712

SNH/dlh

BRINKS HOFER GILSON & LIONE
One Indiana Square, Suite 1600
Indianapolis, Indiana 46204
Telephone: 317-636-0886
Facsimile: 317-634-6701